## STATE of WISCONSIN



## OFFICE of the GOVERNOR

WHEREAS; Hmong people are an ethnically and culturally diverse group of people originally from southern China and Southeast Asia, specifically Vietnam, Laos, Thailand, and Myanmar; and

WHEREAS; thousands of Hmong people courageously fought alongside Americans during the Vietnam War, and many were ultimately forced to flee their native lands and resettle in communities throughout the United States, including in Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS; Hmong Americans have lived and worked in Wisconsin for more than four decades and have contributed to the state's rich history, culture, economy, and public service; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin has the third largest Hmong population in the United States, and the vibrant and resilient culture of Hmong Wisconsinites is an important part of the state's identity; and

WHEREAS; the Hmong New Year has historically occurred following the harvest season to celebrate the conclusion of one year and the welcoming of the next and, in the United States, these celebrations enable Hmong Americans to strengthen social ties, maintain cultural identity, and pass on traditions to the next generation; and

WHEREAS; cultural celebrations like the Hmong New Year can also serve as learning opportunities that can help people of all backgrounds better understand one another and build a brighter, more inclusive future for everyone; and

WHEREAS; in recognition of the diversity within the Hmong communities across Wisconsin and nationwide, a specific Hmong New Year date is not observed, and instead, a Hmong New Year season is recognized; and

WHEREAS; on this occasion, the state of Wisconsin celebrates the contributions of Hmong Wisconsinites to the historical, cultural, and economic fabric of the state and wishes a happy new year to all who celebrate:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim September – December 2022 as the

## **HMONG NEW YEAR SEASON**

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance to all our state's residents.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 9<sup>th</sup> day of December 2022.

TONY EVERS GOVERNOR

By the Governor:

DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE

Secretary of State